Minutes, 15 January, 2016

Location: UCB Social Science Conference Room

Attending: Aaron Jacobs, Heather Kimball, Mike Shintaku, Scott Saft, Mary Louise Haraguchi, Alice Davis, Chelsea Kay-Wong, Michele Ebersole, Tam Vu, Māhealani Jones.

Guest: Shelby Wong

I. Meeting called to order by Aaron Jacobs at 2:05.
II. Minutes from last meeting moved by Mary Louise, seconded by Alice, 9-0-1.
III. Agenda items

1. Low grades and probationary status (Don). Issue: students accepted provisionally must earn a grade of B or better in the first semester to remain in the program. All other students can earn a grade of B-. This has led to confusion among faculty, who don’t always know which students are provisionally accepted. Discussion involved realizing that students provisionally accepted should not be “advertised” to faculty and should be treated the same as other students. Having 2 policies for passing grades can be confusing. Motion was made by Heather, seconded by Tam to change the minimum grade for provisionally accepted students to B- (and not B), while retaining the cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all students. Passed, vote 9-2-0

For the two provisionally accepted students who received grades of B- in their first semester (Fall 2015), it was agreed to extend their provisional status one more semester. The program chair will confirm both have met academic standards at the end of the second semester.

2. Appeal process after dismissal (Alice and Māhealani). There is currently no standard appeal process at the GC level for students who have been dismissed after failing to meet academic standards. Currently the policy says the dismissal letter is sent by the program chair, with a copy to the dean. Motion was made by Mary Louise Haraguchi, seconded by Peter Mills that dismissed students would be asked to direct their appeal to the Graduate Council for review, and the GC would send their recommendation to the VCAA for his final decision. Passed, vote 9-0-0.

3. Charter update (Aaron). A vote will be taken electronically. Aaron will send out the draft revisions, the former Charter, and a poll for GC members to vote. The deadline for voting will close Friday, January 22.

IV. Other business

1. Heather: reminder about the First Annual Graduate Student Symposium, to be held on Friday, March 18, 2016. Program chairs and faculty are encouraged/reminded to get students involved in participating at the symposium.

V. Meeting adjourned at 2:09pm.

Next meeting to be emailed to GC members.

Submitted by M. Jones